

City of Townsend
Commission Meeting Minutes

For

July 15, 2014

Attendance: Attending the meeting was Mayor Michael Talley, Vice Mayor Becky Headrick, Commissioner Ron Palewski, Commissioner Kenny Myers, Recorder Danny Williamson, Former Recorder Shelia Moss, Police Chief Ron Suttles, Iva Butler, Don Headrick, Marsha Jaronowski, Doug Ridley, and Jan Foreman.

Pledge: Mayor Talley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:04 pm.

Minutes: Vice-Mayor Headrick requested a correction to the June 17th minutes regarding the discussion to disburse the proceeds from the sale of seized vehicles to reflect that when asked, “even though that’s going against state law, do you still want to make that motion and Commissioner Myers said, yes”. Commissioner Palewski made the motion to approve the minutes pending the correction and Commissioner Myers seconded. The motion passed with 4 yea votes.

Finance Report: Former Recorder Sheila Moss reported movement of \$5,590.00 to the drug fund for seized vehicles as voted at last council meeting. She also reported that the City will most likely receive an audit finding for failing to pass a budget amendment ordinance. She also mentioned that the City had spent more than it budgeted and that revenues were less than expected for the 2014 fiscal year. Mayor Talley made the motion to approve the financial reports, Commissioner Myers seconded and it was approved with 4 yea votes.

Recorder Williamson reported receiving a hospitalization insurance rate renewal with the being increase over 19% from Humana, and will give council more exact figures at the next council meeting.

Police Report: Chief Suttles reported that it has been a very busy several weeks with a traffic fatality, an electrocution, and a call to a rope swing accident. The river is very low which is rough for the tubers. The Chief reported of the anti-DUI (Driving Under the Influence) saturation event on Saturday the 19th, which will involve participation with Tennessee Highway Patrol and Blount County Sheriffs Office, in which Senator Doug Overby will attend along with representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Students Against Drunk Driving. There were questions and discussions about bear activity.

Maintenance: Chief Suttles encouraged everyone to pay attention to the lower end of the city and compliment Mr. Glenn McCambell and Mr. Jerry Godfrey on a job well done. Vice-Mayor Headrick asked about the upper end and Chief Suttles pointed out the need for more and better equipment, and the city’s limited resources. He also discussed the inability to tend to any of the “unsafe” mowing areas. There was discussion about the Tennessee Department Of Transportation (TDOT) roll in the mowing, or lack thereof. Commissioner Myers raised the question as to pursuing the purchase of a four-wheel-drive mower. Mayor Talley said that it would most likely take place during the next fiscal year. Chief Suttles reported that the swinging bridge was closed as per the Blount County Highway Dept. due to a problem with a bridge support issue.

Fire Report: No one was present to represent the Fire Department. There was discussion about the Fourth of July fireworks event. Approximately ten-thousand people were on hand for the event, and they began arriving around 5:00 PM. There were many compliments being passed around. There was also the least amount of litter to pick up this year than any year prior. Commissioner Palewski extended thanks to Mr. Don and Mrs. Sandy Headrick for use of their grounds.

Recreation: No Report

Old Business

Mountain Avenue Water Tank Access: Mayor Talley reported that Chief Suttles had marked off the best route for the access road and that pictures were available for Commissioners to look at. Also available is a survey provided by Ivins, depicted as Exhibit A. Mayor Talley and Commissioner Myers each disclosed membership on the Tuckaleechee Utility Board and that no personal gain would be realized from these activities. Mayor Talley made a motion to approve the access road as depicted on Exhibit A. Commissioner Myers seconded and the motion passed with 4 yeas.

Old Highway 73: Commissioner Headrick has not heard anything back from Mr. Bill Dunlap of Blount County Highway Department. Mayor Talley has been in touch with Mr. Pat Jenkins regarding ownerships and easements along the property. After further discussion, it was agreed that action needs to be taken on the project soon.

New Business

Greenway Fundraising Study: Mayor Talley was contacted by Mr. Jeremy Pearson regarding a feasibility study to develop a greenway from Maryville on into Townsend. There was some discussion about the Greenway Trail and feasibility study. Commissioner Myers made a motion to a lot \$200 towards the study. Commissioner Palewski seconded and the motion passed with 4 yeas.

There being no further business, Mayor Talley made a motion to adjourn at 8:08PM. Commissioner Myers seconded and the motion passed with 4 yea votes.

City Recorder

Approved: _____ date _____
Title: _____